(c) All manufacturing and sale of drugs is controlled under the various provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules there under, The manufacture of spurious drugs is a clandestine activity generally indulged in by unlicensed manufacturers and when they are detected, action is taken as per law.

A Bill has already been introduced in the Parliament to provide stricter penalties, provision for special courts for speedy trial of drug related offences, compounding offences authorizing the Police also to file prosecution for drugs related offences and making all such offences cognizable and non-bailable.

Legislation for punishment for denying emergency treatment

1254. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has prepared a legislation to stipulate punishment including six months imprisonment alongwith fine of Rs. 10,000 to the doctor or persons running the hospitals if any emergency treatment is denied;

(b) if so, what are the main other features of the proposed law; and

(c) by when it is likely to be passed?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) The Law Commission of India in the 201st report on "Emergency Medical Care to Victims of Accidents and during Emergency Medical Condition and Women under Labour" have suggested a model law which, *inter-alia* provides for punishment for a period which may extend upto six months or for fine which may extend upto rupees ten thousand or for both. The said report of the Law Commission of India has been laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 19.11.2007. Health being a State subject, it is for the State Governments to get enacted legislation based on this model law.

Regulatory framework for medical colleges

1255. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Knoweldge Commission has recommended an independent regulatory framework for medical colleges in the country in place of the Medical Council of India, as the Commission felt that there is a progressive decline in medical institutions in the country;

(b) whether the Commission also felt that MCI, in practice, is only a recommendatory body without genuine autonomy and that it is unable to discharge its present repsonsibility, leave aside the purpose for which it was constituted;

(c) if so, whether Government has accepted the panel's recommendations; and

(d) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) The working group on medical education formed by the National

Knowledge Commission, in its report, has *inter-alia* recommended that an increasingly globalizing world demands a dynamic, responsive to change and well informed, autonomous regulatory body to meet the emerging challenges for initiating, promoting, monitoring and enforcing standards of medical education at all level across the country. The working group has further recommended that such a regularory body should have genuine autonomy provided with adequate authority and managed by highly qualified medical educationist with record of integrity and proven credential. The report of the working group on medical education formed by the National Knowledge Commission has been received in the Ministry and is under consideration.

Health care project by Intel Corporation and the Ministry

1256. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Intel Corporation and his Ministry announced scaling up of health-care projects in India, a global initiative, to provide people in developing countries with the benefits of better, faster access to information and communications technology;

(b) if so, whether projects include a tele-health programe for community hospitals and a school health monitoring system; and

(c) if so, whether there is one such project in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI . RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) A pilot project on e-Health has been taken up by Intel Corporation at Community Hospital, Government Hospital, Tindivanam and Primary Health Centre, Mailam in Viluppuram District from 3rd September, 2007.

The pilot project includes e-Health programme at St. Philominal Girls Higher Secondary School, Tindivanam in Viluppuram District.

Hospital wastes in Delhi

1257. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a), whether it is a fact that Delhi's hazardous hospital waste is being indiscriminately burnt in incinerators without proper segregation;

(b) whether during the burning process, cancer causing fumes are being released in the air; and

(c) if so, what is the action plan of Government to address this environmental hazard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) Ministry of Environment and Forests has notified Bio-medical (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998 and amendments thereof. These rules specify about collection, segregation, labeling storage, transportation, treatment and disposal of Bio-medical Wastes (BMW) and are mandatory for every occupier of an institution generating bio-medical wastes to take steps to ensure that such wastes are handled without any adverse effect to human and environment. There are "Common Bio-medical Waste Treatment Facilities